



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Raised Bill No. 6211

LCO No. 2564

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:
(LAB)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WRITTEN
ERGONOMICS POLICIES FOR THE WORKPLACE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) (a) Each employer,
2 through a safety and health committee established pursuant to section
3 31-40v of the general statutes or through an existing health and safety
4 program or other program that falls within the exemption set forth in
5 subsection (c) of said section 31-40v, shall:

6 (1) Review and analyze its injury and illness records, including, but
7 not limited to, workers' compensation claims, federal Occupational
8 Safety and Health Act log forms, group health insurance records, first
9 aid logs, absentee and turnover records and records of employee
10 complaints or grievances, to determine whether there is a pattern of
11 ergonomic-related injuries or illnesses in certain jobs or work tasks;

12 (2) Review and analyze jobs or work tasks to identify potential
13 ergonomic problems and to determine if certain jobs or work tasks
14 present ergonomic risks that may contribute to musculoskeletal
15 disorders;

16 (3) Seek employee input about the existence of ergonomic problems
17 related to particular jobs or work tasks by reviewing employee
18 complaints about work-related musculoskeletal disorders,
19 interviewing employees, conducting symptom surveys or distributing
20 employee questionnaires; and

21 (4) Develop a written ergonomics policy setting forth (A)
22 procedures for the employer and its employees to jointly evaluate the
23 extent and causes of any work-related ergonomic problems and to
24 make improvements in job design or other causative factors in order to
25 prevent or minimize such problems, (B) procedures for providing
26 ergonomics training to the employer and its employees in order to
27 prevent or minimize musculoskeletal disorders, and (C) incentives for
28 employees to report early symptoms of musculoskeletal disorders in
29 order to prevent or minimize incapacity or disability through early
30 conservative medical treatment and ergonomic interventions.

31 (b) For purposes of this section, "employer" means a person engaged
32 in business who has employees, including the state and its political
33 subdivisions.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2003</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To require each employer, through its health and safety committee or existing health and safety program, to develop a written ergonomics policy for the workplace.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]